

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I did want to add a few words to those spoken so eloquently by my colleagues, and let me thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) for her management of this bill and, of course, for her great work as an esteemed member of the Committee on Armed Services, and also the ranking member, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER), of the Subcommittee on Total Force, who is my partner on these issues. We are all part of a team that is very honored today to have this opportunity to present this very worthy, in my estimation, resolution for consideration to the full House. Let me again thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES) for his effort and leadership in bringing this measure to the floor at this time.

Certainly, there are many perspectives today with respect to Operation Restore Hope and the battle at Mogadishu, a great deal of debate as to what happened prior to, what happened during, and as the aftermath of that, from the small "p" political perspective; but I would like to believe, and in fact I do believe, very strongly that there is absolutely no debate, no controversy with respect to what happened in Somalia and what happened during the battle of Mogadishu with respect to the incredibly brave and incredibly effective service of those members of our Armed Forces who were there as part of Operation Restore Hope. They were there for one reason. They were there to try to make a country safe for international relief organizations to administer humanitarian assistance.

When those same members who were there for the most peaceful of reasons were called into combat, they fought with incredible honor and skill, and as we have heard here this afternoon, incredible courage.

I do have somewhat of a personal stake in this resolution, Madam Speaker. I was very pleased to hear all of my colleagues speak very graciously about the contributions and sacrifices of the 10th Mountain Division during that particular day, that particular battle. The 10th Mountain Division is deployed out of Fort Drum which is just outside of Watertown, New York, my hometown, and still part of my district back in the State of New York. And specifically, it was the soldiers of the 14th Infantry Regiment, the Golden Dragons, who manned the relief column that ended the Mogadishu fight. It was those same Fort Drum troops that fought through the city for some 12 hours while under continuous heavy fire to clear an evacuation route for the incredibly brave Army Rangers and Delta Force commandos who had been pinned down by forces loyal to the Somali warlord, Mohammed Farah Aidid that day.

During that battle, 18 heroes were killed in total, but two of those troops were from the 10th Mountain Division. Also, 28 were wounded. The two soldiers whose lives were lost that day were Sergeant Cornell Houston and Private First Class James Martin, and I want to add my words of condolences and greatest sympathy, but also greatest appreciation to those two soldiers' families, and to all of the families of the soldiers, not just in the 10th, but in the Armed Services committed to that battle over that period of time in Mogadishu for their incredible sacrifice and for their devotion.

Their courage was uncommon insofar as those of us lesser mortals are concerned. The courage that was shown in Mogadishu and shown in Somalia, however, I think is very symptomatic, not common, nothing that extraordinary could be called common, but that remarkable demonstration of all that makes up our great Armed Services, and things we see every day today in Iraq and Afghanistan and Bosnia and Kosovo; in theater after theater, the men and women not just of the United States Army but of all of the branches of our Armed Services display on our behalf and on behalf of others, simply trying to give people a chance to be free.

This resolution is important because it signifies an incredibly vital anniversary in the history of the United States military, an important anniversary in their incredible contributions and sacrifices on behalf of others, but it is also important for the symbolism, that symbolism that continues today on the streets of Baghdad, that symbolism that continues today on the streets of Kabul and other places, men and women in uniform from villages large and small, from cities medium and large from the United States, who go to these strange, far-away places for one reason, to try to make people's lives better. That is why when people say we are proud to be Americans, we can say it with such conviction.

Madam Speaker, I again thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES), and add a final word of urging to all of the Members of the House to vote in support of this great resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I am very honored to join with my colleagues today, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HAYES), the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KLINE), and particularly the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) for his dedication in this area. I am pleased to join with my colleagues in expressing deep gratitude for the valor and commitment of the members of the Armed Forces who were deployed in Operation Restore Hope to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Somalia in 1993. I think that we need to be reminded, all of us, of the lessons

learned from Operation Restore Hope, and keep that in our hearts and in our minds as we move forward in this Congress.

Mr. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 291.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1615

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2660, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c) of House rule XXII, I hereby notify the House of my intention tomorrow to offer the following motion to instruct House conferees on the bill (H.R. 2660) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

The form of the motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill H.R. 2660 be instructed to insist on the highest funding levels possible for programs authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act.

EXTENDING AUTHORITY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MEMORIAL TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 470) to extend the authority for the construction of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 470

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION. 1. MEMORIAL TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Section 508(b) of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-333, as amended) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—